Environmental Transformation in Southampton

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Context

Southampton

- 263,769 resident population
- £6.8b economy, slower growth since pandemic and lower productivity than comparators
- 55th most deprived of 317 local authorities

Southampton City Council

- Unitary authority, electing by thirds
- 3000 employees
- £595.2m gross expenditure. Significant financial challenge / capitalisation.
- The Environment Department
- Financial drivers for change
- Legislative drivers for change



The challenge

- Meet the financial challenge
- Adapt to new legislative requirements
- Improve service to residents
- Change how we deliver environmental services
 - Direction and ownership
 - Delivery model
 - Politicians / employees / residents
 - Wider organisational transformation



Project outcomes

- LGA Support Interviews and Workshops / Best practice review
- Shared ownership of challenge
- Consensus on goals
- Preferred delivery model
- Clear action plan

Rank	Model	Risk Mitigation	Deliverability	Positive Impact on Finance	Strategic Influence	Total Score
1	In-house	3.3	3.8	2.3	3.8	13.2
2	Collaboration	3	2.7	3.2	3	11.9
3	Shared Service	3.2	2.8	2.8	2.8	11.6
4	LATCO	2.8	1.7	3.3	2.5	10.3
5	JV	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.2	10.1
6	Outsource	2.8	2.5	2.7	1.5	9.5

- Basis of service transformation plan
- Applicability to wider transformational activity



Learning

• Value of external perspective

- Critical friend
- Wider knowledge base
- Trusted voice

• Stakeholder engagement and buy-in

- Time to step away from "response" and reflect
- Co-creation and ownership

Converting to meaningful action

- Capturing the work
- Sustaining the pace

